

able cost to the county. It was noted that under state law, the speed limit on all county roads is 45 m.p.h. unless otherwise posted.

Turning to other business, Ken Ball, assistant area administrator with the state health department, addressed the commission concerning the adoption of a local fee bill for services now being provided at "no-charge."

He told commissioners that Coffee County was the only county within a 10-county area that did not have a local fee bill.

Ball explained that the county does not charge for services such as septic tank permits and installation inspections, immunizations, and health permits for eating establishments.

He noted that charges for these services could possibly generate between \$35,000 and \$40,000 annually.

According to Ball, the local health department is currently operating at an annual deficit of \$80,000. The Balanced Budget Act of 1996 caused a loss of \$1.8 million in its budget.

Ball explained that a resolution

passed by the commission favoring a local fee bill would be required before the legislation could be enacted. The commissioners passed the resolution by a vote of 5 to 1 with 1 abstention.

A work session to establish a fee schedule will be held by the commissioners in the near future. The State Department of Public Health sets a maximum fee that can be charged by the county on each service provided by the department.

No services provided by the local health department will be denied to anyone lacking the ability to pay.

Other actions taken by the commission were as follows:

***Awarded the bid for geotextiles (silk fence and filter fabric used along side the roadway at construction sites) to Comtech Construction Products of Tallahassee, Fla. Their bid was \$26 per square yard.

***Set the length of terms of those individuals appointed to the Coffee County Water Authority. They are as follows: Austin Mixon and Cliff Offenberg - 2 years; Dale Moseley and Dr. James Paulk - 4 years; and Leo Brown, Al Britt and Darren Smith - 6 years.

Elba Elementary School Menu April 19-23, 1999

BREAKFAST		LUNCH	
Monday	Cinnamon Toast, 1/2 Apple, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday	Fish Burger, Cole Slaw, French Fries, Applesauce, Milk
Tuesday	Pancakes w/Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday	Pizza, Green Salad, Corn on Cob, 1/2 Orange, Milk
Wednesday	Biscuits, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday	Chili w/Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Crackers, Cheese
Thursday	Cheese Sandwich, 1/2 Orange, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday	Hoagie, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Potato Wedges, Peach half, Milk
Friday	Cheese Grits, Cereal, Toast/Uelly, Juice, Milk	Friday	Corn Dog, Macaroni & Cheese, Turnips, Cornbread, 1/2 Apple, Milk

SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER

READ

THE ELBA CLIPPER • THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1999

(Continued from Page One)

George Washington (in costume) read to and visited with children during a children's story hour sponsored by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Also throughout the week, the public library has held its annual book sale and overdue books have been available for return without a late fee being charged.

Although reading is the most common associate of the library, Doggett said the Internet has been a big part of this year's National Library Week.

"We have been showing classes our home page on the Internet, as well as, the websites of different

authors and illustrators of children's books," she said. "There is so much up-to-date information on the Internet that it has become just as important to libraries as books and encyclopedias."

And, the importance of the Internet to libraries is obvious if by nothing more than its presence in the national logo for National Library Week. **Read! Learn! Connect!**

To me, National Library Week is a time we can stop and say thanks to everyone for their support of our program here at Elba High School whether it be the teachers, students, school board members, the central

office, the media, or the parents," said Calhoun. "All these groups combined is what makes our program and programs throughout the nation a success."

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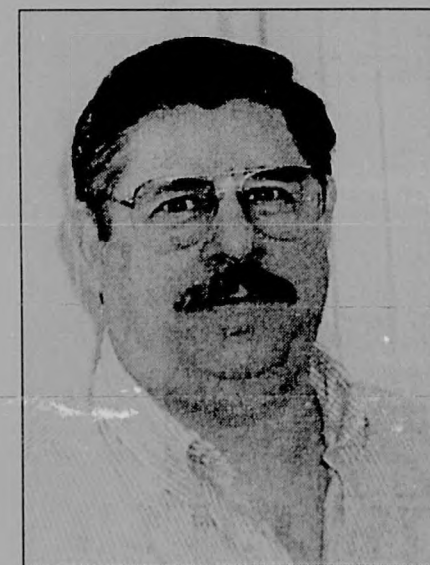
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The Elba Clipper

Volume 102, Number 45

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Section, 12 Pages Plu 1 Adv. Insert

BOARD APPROVES 1999-2000 SCHOOL CALENDAR

County BOE replacing portables

by Marvin McIlwain, Editor

The monthly meeting of the Coffee County Board of Education was a little late in getting started last Thursday but with the late arrival of a fourth member a quorum was met and the rather lengthy meeting began.

Getting started on a positive note, the board recognized five foster grandparents who are part of a program that assists student and teachers at Project Independence located in New Brockton. The grandparents were commended by the board for the work they do and were presented a plaque in recognition for the invaluable service they provide.

Those individuals honored were as follows: Gladys Barefoot, Lena Harris, Wallace Belcher, Leo Henderson, and William Herrington. Mrs. Harris has been a part of the program for more than 17 years.

In the absence of the school architect, Bill Wallace, County School Superintendent Rodger Bowden, gave the board an update on plans to replace the portable classrooms in the county system with permanent structures.

He told board members that all surveys (architectural and engineering) had been completed and that some good news was that the septic tanks and field lines will pose no problem to the construction of classrooms on the Zion Chapel and New Brockton campuses. The only remaining test to be performed is soil testing at the proposed construction sites.

Bowden said that \$992,000 had been released to the county by the state from the bond issue passed by the state legislature in 1998 to be used to fund the building project. He commented that Coffee County received the full amount asked for which was partially due to the fact that it would be funding all new facilities and not in repairing existing classrooms.

Several other school systems throughout the state had been approved to receive only a percentage (about 25 percent) of what they had asked for.

The plans for the 12 classrooms - six at Zion Chapel Elementary and six at New Brockton Elementary - will be finalized and hopefully construction will begin in the very near future. Bowden hopes to have children in the new classrooms by next Spring.

Bowden shared with board members a letter he had received from the Alabama National Guard concerning the proposed construction of a new baseball field at Zion Chapel.

There were several questions about the requirements (such as providing liability insurance, fuel, equipment repair, etc.) set forth in

the letter that would have to be satisfied "before" the site preparation could be done by guardsmen during summer camp.

After several minutes of discussion, it was decided to table the matter until the final plans for the field's construction were received from the county engineer. At that time, further discussion, and a decision as to what course of action the board will take on the baseball field will be made.

In presenting the suggested school calendar for 1999-2000, Dr. Linda Ingram reported on a recent survey of the modified school calendar presently being used by the school system. The survey was conducted in all three schools in the system with questionnaires being filled out by students, teachers and parents.

"Overwhelmingly, it appears that the people like the modified calendar used this past year," said Dr. Ingram.

She gave the board a brief synopsis of the survey results (1405 responses were received).

The percentages of those favoring the modified calendar ranged from 91 plus to 96 plus percent. Parents returning the questionnaires favored continuing the modified plan into the next school term by 90.58 percent. Students (grades 9 through 12) followed their parents' lead with 90.98 percent stamp of approval.

Faculty members favor the new calendar in 1999-2000, will receive \$108,615.15 in addition to the \$46,000 reserve.

After reviewing the textbook committee's report and hearing Mr. Moates' comments the board adopted the recommended textbooks.

The board adjourned with next month's meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 1999, in the conference room located in the Central Office in Elba.

One of Dr. Ingram's concerns with the new calendar was that the shortened summer break would present a problem to students seeking or holding a summer job; however, according to the survey, this has not or will not cause any significant problems.

A shorter Christmas break has been suggested but to do so would effect spring break in an adverse manner. Ingram explained the shift would cause the county's spring break to not coincide with other schools.

Board members asked Dr. Ingram and Supt. Bowden what affect the modified calendar had had on discipline, test scores and attendance if any.

Both Ingram and Bowden agreed that it was too early to tell what impact it had had in these areas; however, information and data is being compiled in order to make

that observation. Bowden did say that he had seen a difference in discipline in that he has had fewer referrals from principals concerning disciplinary problems.

The board adopted the 1999-2000 modified school calendar with only a few minor changes from this year's calendar.

Tom Moates, county school system's textbook coordinator, gave a report and recommendation to the board from the textbook committee.

He said members of the committee have been studying samples of textbooks for social studies, foreign language and music since November of last year.

Moates commented that the state educational department's goal is to change textbooks or get new books at least every six years, and in most cases in less time than that.

He said that the entire social studies curriculum, K thru 12, has been completely revamped from the present one.

Financially, the county is in good shape to purchase new textbooks for the students Moates reported.

"In 1998-99 the state allotment was \$108,000 plus," he said. "We spent \$64,000 of that leaving us a balance of \$46,000 plus which is real good."

He told board members that the textbook allotment per child is \$52.50 which means the system, with a projected enrollment of 2,068 students in 1999-2000, will receive \$108,615.15 in addition to the \$46,000 reserve.

After reviewing the textbook committee's report and hearing Mr. Moates' comments the board adopted the recommended textbooks.

The board adjourned with next month's meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 1999, in the conference room located in the Central Office in Elba.

Other actions taken by the board were as follows:

***Approved out-of-state travel for the Kinston High School band. The band will be making a "fun trip" to Milton Florida for two days (May 21 & 22) of camping, canoeing, etc.

***Kinston Elementary's sixth grade students will travel to Panama

Please See BOE, Page 2

Area Happenings

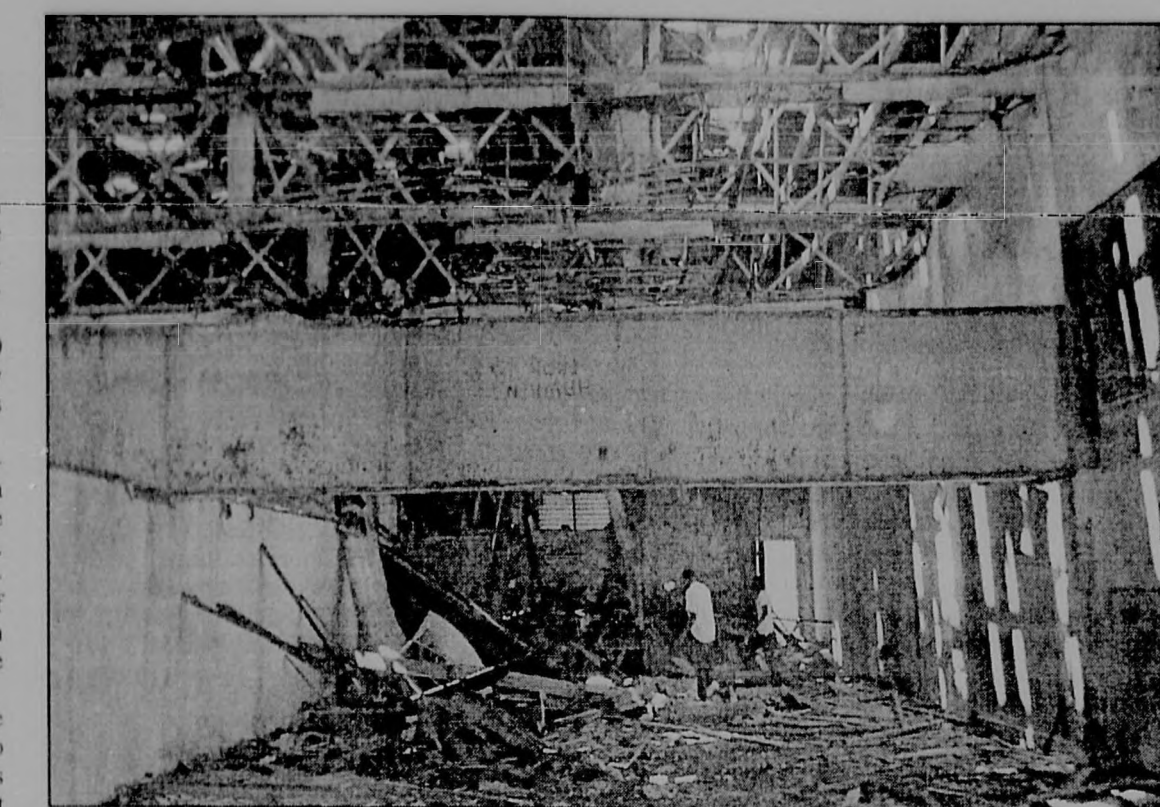
COMMISSION MEETING. The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room located in the County Complex in New Brockton, AL.

COFFEE COUNTY ADC MEETING. The Coffee County Unit of the Alabama Democratic Conference will meet Saturday, April 24, 1999, at 10 a.m. at The Chapel Hill Mortuary (formerly Little Tank's Place) on Daleville Avenue in Enterprise. All members and other interested persons are asked to be present and on time. For more information call Beatrice Brooks at 347-0918 or Robert Hooks at 347-8440.

NEW BROCKTON KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION. Kindergarten registration for the 1999-2000 school year will be held at New Brockton Elementary School on Tuesday, April 27, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Children must be five years old on or before September 2, 1999 to attend Kindergarten. Parents should bring the child's birth certificate, Social Security card, and Alabama Immunization records. Children are encouraged to attend the registration with their parents. In order to adequately prepare for the new school year, it is important for each child to be registered. For more information, please call the school office at 894-6152.

KINSTON KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION. Kinston Elementary School will hold Kindergarten registration on Wednesday, April 28 from 8 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. The child being registered must be 5-years-old on or before September 2, 1999 in order to attend. Please bring your child and the following information to registration: birth certificate, immunization forms, Social Security card, proof of residence (utility bill, apartment/home lease, etc.). It is important to note that students and parent(s)/guardian must reside in Coffee County. Hearing, vision and speech screening will be provided.

ZION CHAPEL KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION. Zion Chapel Elementary School will hold Kindergarten registration on Thursday, April 29, from 8 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. Parents will need to bring the child's birth certificate, Social Security card, immunization records and proof of residence.



LONG OVERDUE. The old theatre building located on the square in downtown Elba has been an eyesore since the March '90 flood. The building was recently purchased by Jesse Clements, owner of Clements' Furniture which is located on the square. When asked what his plans for the building were, he replied, "Right now, I just want to clean it up. I don't have any immediate plans for the building." He did say that he was going to put a roof on the structure to protect it from any further damage from the elements. Workers started last week "gutting" the building and making it safe to work in.

Elba Chamber of Commerce members served breakfast by elected officials

The Elba Chamber of Commerce hosted a members breakfast on Friday morning, April 16th. The group met at First Baptist Church with State Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer.

Holley thanked Spicer for being cooperative on projects of mutual interest; talked about projected highway improvements, including

successful efforts to reopen Highway 84 and widening of the Pea River Bridge at Ino.

Holley responded to questions about his negative literacy vote with a laugh and hope it doesn't hamper progress on Highway 84.

Chamber President Jerry Kelley welcomed the members and thanked them for the strong turnout for such an early morning meeting.

Kelley introduced the two legislators and explained that each would be given a few minutes to talk and then the pair would field questions from the group.

Spicer was the first to address the group and he gave a brief overview of what has happened in the House of Representatives during the current session. The newly elected representative showed special pride in the House passed education budget, which included considerable addi-

tional funding; also his and Holley's successful efforts to reopen Highway 84 and widening of the Pea River Bridge at Ino.

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NOTICE

The Coffee County Auburn Club will hold its Spring Meeting on Thursday, April 29, 1999 at the Elba High School Cafeteria. A barbeque dinner, catered by J & T's restaurant will be served beginning at 6:30 p.m. at a cost of \$10 per person. The guest speaker for the occasion will be Auburn Athletic Director David Housel. For more information call Jim Sparrow at 393-3366.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

The long promised new grocery supermarket is finally opening in Elba. There is a half page ad in this issue of the paper making the announcement of the Wednesday debut of Elba Marketplace. We urge our readers to go by and get acquainted with the staff of the new store. Store manager is Rick Heigler, a native of Ozark and a nice young man to talk with, if you can slow him down as opening day is fast approaching.

The "video poker at the dog track" bill was killed in the Alabama Senate last week, to the surprise of those supporting it... actually it is down but not completely out, as the proponents are busy trying to either revive that bill or come with the same thing under a different label.

If you are one of the thousands who called your senator, urging him to vote no on either of those gambling bills, and he did just that, one more phone call is in order... this time a call or written note of thanks.

At the winter convention of the Alabama Press Association in March, yours truly was named to the group's Board of Directors. We are flattered, but actually even with this title it still takes 50¢ or more to get a cup of coffee at most restaurants. We have been on that board on at least two previous occasions and frankly enjoy attending the board meetings. However, as we explained to a local friend right after the announcement was made, all this means is one more set of meetings, in either Montgomery and/or Birmingham, for the next two years at the same time we are keenly conscious that there is more time and effort needed in improving the content of your local newspaper. But then, the basic purpose of the press association is to help do exactly that. Continue to bear with us, please.

There is a mess in the City of Dothan as the police chief goes public with claims of "don't enforce" pressure from elected officials. From what has been publicized of the secretly recorded phone calls, a person may not like what was said, or asked, but there appears to be no law broken in making the record of the chief. However, that type attitude may be the smoke to prove a "quit or be fired" atmosphere within the Dothan city government.

The possibility of Y2K problems is continually popping up all around us. A couple of weeks ago, at a legislative conference, the superintendent of the State Banking Department, Norman B. Davis, Jr. didn't shudder at our "what if" question. He said, without even raising his voice, "If any financial institution is not Y2K ready by our deadline, we will shut them down." He added that there would be no millennium glitch on his watch. Davis had already spoken with confidence in his prepared statement that the commercial banks supervised by his department and by FDIC were basically ready now and would be 100% ready before the end of the year. He recommended that if anyone had concerns about a particular financial institution, just call them and ask about their Y2K preparations.

If any of our readers are looking for a real special thing to do on this upcoming millennium New Year's weekend, the Grand Hotel at Point Clear has just the ticket. First off, the Grand is known as a first class joint designed to please the discriminating guest. Believe us folks, they do this very well. But back to the special weekend which includes everything... food, room service, drinks at the bar from noon until 1 a.m., golf, dancing to the music of either of two big name bands, etc. The cost for a couple begins at \$2,500 for the three days in a luxurious room or up to \$7,500 per couple at one of the spacious suites or cottage accommodations. Of course if a person is winning it single, the cost is slightly lower, starting at only \$2,000. You can have a child under 18 in your room for only an additional \$500. You pay a \$500 non-refundable deposit right quick and the balance (also non-refundable) by September 1st. Folks, as a person who still remembers picking cotton all day long for 3¢ a pound, that is completely in another world and not for our humble family.

BOE

(Continued from Page One)

City Beach where they will spend the day at the Gulfarium.

***Approved a request from the Coffee County Water Authority to purchase a 1 acre plot at the site of the old Fairview School. The authority plans to erect a water tank at this location in the future.

***Formally adopted as board policy: 1) Graduation requirements,

2) the modified no pass/no play policy; and 3) Minor changes to the policy on discipline.

***An extensive county-wide emergency management plan for the county school system was presented to members of the board for their review and recommendations to be made at the next meeting.

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John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER
Marvin McIlwain - EDITOR
Ricky Mulaz - SPORTS
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6 months - \$9
Outside Alabama - \$18 per year - 6 months - \$10

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, April 12, 1999, investigated the following incidents: two harassments, two criminal mischiefs, one burglary, and two thefts of property.

The following arrests were made during the week: one for contempt of court, one for harassing communication, and one for disorderly conduct.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: six for speeding, two for driving while driver's license is suspended, one for attempting to elude, one for running a stop sign, and one for seat belt violation.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, APRIL 12 - River stage - 3.97 feet (6:10 a.m.); Elba Rescue Squad dispatched to a residence on Taylor Avenue (8:36 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Elba High School (9:17 a.m.); Elba Rescue Squad dispatched to a residence on Winston Street (5:48 p.m.); Elba Fire department dispatched to a house fire on Williams Street (8:20 p.m.); Elba Rescue Squad responded to fire on Williams Street (8:22 p.m.).

TUESDAY, APRIL 13 - River stage - 3.80 feet (6:39 a.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to Southeast Alabama Medical Center in Dothan (4:42 p.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14 - Fire alarm (false) at Elba Elementary school (4:32 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on AL Hwy. 166 (9:00 a.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to

Flowers Hospital in Dothan (10:36 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Pine Circle (11:42 a.m.).

THURSDAY, APRIL 15 - River stage - 3.60 (6:16 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Jackson Street (2:53 p.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to UAB-Birmingham (5:42 p.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a house fire on AL Highway 87N (8:04 p.m.); Elba Rescue Squad responded to house fire on AL Highway 87N (8:07 p.m.); Zion Chapel Fire Department dispatched to house fire on AL Highway 87N (8:15 p.m.).

FRIDAY, APRIL 16 - River stage - 3.84 feet (6:31 a.m.); Minor wreck reported at Skinner Furniture on AL Highway 203 (by-pass) (12:40 p.m.); Routine activity.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17 - River stage - 4.00 feet (6:39 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Co. Rd. 342 (8:42 a.m.); Elba Rescue Squad dispatched to a residence on Co. Rd. 215 (10:21 a.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to Flowers Hospital in Dothan (12:06 p.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to Montgomery (4:06 p.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to Southeast Alabama Medical Center in Dothan (4:12 p.m.).

SUNDAY, APRIL 18 - River stage - 4.28 feet (6:32 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Taylor Mill Road (11:32 a.m.); Fight reported at old Mulberry School (7:39 p.m.).

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of April 13, 1999, through April 19, 1999. They were: Verbie Sasser, Barbara Mitchell, Leo Henderson, Laura Norton, Donnie Register, Deborah Buchanan, Tremayne Warren, Kevin Allen, Maggie Head, Sid Odom, Owen Jackson, Edmond Hutchinson, Mary Dawson, Elvira Thomas, Robert Belcher, Richard Faulk, Rebecca Huckabaa, Jay Hudson, Janette Kelley, Margaret Simmons, Mike Odom, and Ruth Cox.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: Sue Messick, Verbie Sasser, Tory

Norris, Don Boothe, Richard Moody, Leo Henderson, Laura Norton, Barbara Mitchell, Lula Goodson, Owen Jackson, Deborah Buchanan, Donnie Register, Tremayne Warren, Robert Belcher, Stacy Johnson, Mary Dawson, Janette Kelley, Sid Odom, and Kay Hudson.

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• **ELBA MINISTRIAL ASSN.** - Tues. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall.
• **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday, following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. - City Hall.
• **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION** - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton.
• **LIONS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center.
• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 1st & 3rd Thurs. - 5:30 p.m. - School Office.
• **AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st Thurs. - 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
• **RESCUE SQUAD** - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 7 p.m. Rescue Sq. Bldg.
• **MASONIC LODGE 170** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.
• **BAND BOOSTERS** - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School.
• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER** - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858.
• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. Club House.
• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Sat. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise.
• **AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 1st Tuesday at noon, City Hall Conference Room.
• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month.
• **CIVIL AIRPATROL** - Every Monday 7 p.m. - Elba Airport - Discollt hanger.
• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - Mondays

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From the Desk of:
State Representative Terry Spicer

House Democrats sending more teachers to Alabama's classrooms

More teachers are headed to Alabama's classrooms due to additional funds in the education budget passed by the full House of Representatives this week. It is estimated that 200 new teachers will be spread among the K-12 school systems across the state.

"Adding teachers means reducing class size; and reducing class size means more individual student attention and more individual help," said Education Ways and Means Committee Chairman Howard Hawk (D-Arab). "Our children's future is the Democratic Party's number one priority. Taking steps to strengthen the public's confidence in our schools is a part of that commitment."

The House worked continuously Tuesday and Wednesday to finish the extensive bill package. Total budget expenditures ring in below the Legislative Fiscal Office's revenue predictions for fiscal year 1999-2000. "Speaker Seth Hammett (D-Andalusia) and the House Leadership are pleased with the efficient consideration that has been given these important bills," comments Representative Terry Spicer (D-Elba). "We feel this budget is reflective of Alabama's values: socially responsible and fiscally conservative."

The education budget package includes appropriations to add two continuing education days for teachers and school administrative staff members during the school year. It also fully funds all school related transportation expenses.



Rep. Terry Spicer

such as school buses, that have often been paid for in the past with bond issues.

A precedent setting a five million-dollar appropriation towards establishing a "rainy day" fund is also in the education budget. Such funds help prevent prohibition in state hiring in Alabama's primary and secondary schools. If the economy remains strong throughout the next year, as much as 3.8 million additional dollars may also be applied.

Alabama is one of the last states in the union to develop some type of protection fund.

Also included is a four million-dollar appropriation for reading initiatives at all grade levels, a six percent across the board funding increase for higher education, and full funding for the virtual library project. The education budget package will move to the Senate for consideration next week.

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Thanks a Million

WEEKLY SYNDICATED COLUMN BY PERCY ROSS

Millionaire Percy Ross is known for his philanthropic work. He offers help and encouragement for those in need. He has earned a fortune and a wealth of knowledge during his lifetime and wants to share both. His motto: "He who gives while he lives... also knows where it goes."

A Need That Calls For More Than Fresh Linens

Mr. Ross: My son is 27 years old and has a profound case of cerebral palsy, which he was born with. He's my only child. My husband, God rest his soul, helped with his care, but he's gone on too long. He passed away 5 years ago. Since that time, life has become increasingly difficult. But the worst day I encountered was last Sunday.

I'm no longer able to attend church services, so sometimes the pastor and his wife will stop by and share their spirituality. It has always given me a lift. Well, on this particular Sunday, they brought their 8-year old daughter along. When she came in my house she asked "I had a cat? Why not," I said, "What makes you think that?" The little girl answered me, "Because I smell a litter box."

That's when it dawned on me-my son's bed is in the living room. He has a problem with incontinence and try as I do to get the smell of urine out of the mattress, it has gone on too long. It's sad that I couldn't recognize the odor, but when you live with it, what can I say? We live on disability and a small pension. A new mattress and box spring will cost \$400. It's a lot to request, but right now I don't even have two nickels to rub together.

Mrs. D. M. ... Photo Classifieds, Meridian, MS

Dear Mrs. M.: I'm sure it dawned on you that your pastor's daughter was not the first to notice the urine odor- she was merely the first to call it to your attention. Sometimes adults are so worried they may cause hurt feelings, that they end up doing a disservice by not addressing a delicate issue. The \$400 I'm sending you will temporarily resolve the problem. Perhaps one day you'll find a permanent solution. Best wishes.

Dear Mr. Ross: I want to thank you for the \$500

Write Percy Ross: c/o the Elba Clipper, P.O. Box 39000-B, Minneapolis, MN 55439. Include your phone number. All letters are read. Only a few are answered in this column; others may be acknowledged privately.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

The Alabama Family Alliance has what initially appears as a very informative website. When the page loads, one sees a mission statement from the group, which claims they aim to present the public with "fact-based, objective analysis of issues."

Upon further examination of the site, however, one can see exactly how biased this group truly is.

This so-called "Family Alliance" purports to have the goal of producing an environment that is good for our children. However, this group is so anti-gambling that they are unwilling to admit that a state lottery and video poker can be good for education. They use Greene County as an example, saying that the county's education system suffered when Birmingham Race Course opened, losing the funds to competition. The fact of the matter is that Greene County's dog track would still have live greyhound racing today had Mississippi's casinos not opened, and the Birmingham Race Course will soon fall victim to this rigorous competition. The group also seems to think that because the bill prohibits the county and municipal governments from levying any taxes on the video poker money, that the localities will suffer.

We must realize that not only Greene County, but also any other county with legalized gambling, has suffered from losing funds to the competition in Mississippi's casinos. Over 40% of the attendance to these casinos come from Alabama. The Alliance fails to mention that fact. Furthermore, just because local governments cannot levy taxes on video poker doesn't mean that the localities will suffer. The money will go into the states' general fund, which means that everyone will benefit. This group is supposed to be the Alabama Family Alliance, not the "Let's See Who We Can Use As a Bad Example" Family Alliance. I don't see where they are promoting anything positive.

Sincerely,
Jerry Bradford
171 Cambridge Way
Birmingham, AL 35242

Dear Editor:
Before I decide to take a stand on something, I try very hard to examine all of the facts. There are many reasons I am sad to say, who do not share my attitude. These people disgust me.

There are certain groups here in Alabama who do not believe that bringing video poker to our state will create jobs, and that the jobs that are created will be low-paying ones. First of all, let me say that a low-paying job is better than no job at all. Alabama has an estimated 18% of its residents living within the poverty threshold. A very many of

these people are unemployed, and with the unemployment rate at a low 3.9%, it is apparent that all of the jobs are taken. Something must be done to create new ones.

These groups argue that because Greene County's dog track failed to thrive, the sales tax there skyrocketed to 9%. Well, no wonder! All of the money was going to Mississippi! With video poker, we can keep Alabama dollars in Alabama and not have to raise taxes. Who wants to pay higher taxes?

These groups are worried that minors will have access to the video poker machines. What they don't mention is that the machines will be located at the state's dog tracks, establishments that you have to be at least 19 years of age to enter. Trust me, the age limit is strictly enforced, losing the funds to competition. The fact of the matter is that Greene County's dog track would still have live greyhound racing today had Mississippi's casinos not opened, and the Birmingham Race Course will soon fall victim to this rigorous competition. The group also seems to think that because the bill prohibits the county and municipal governments from levying any taxes on the video poker money, that the localities will suffer.

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LIFESTYLES

Miss Stanley-Mr. Kidd announce June wedding plans



Mr. Kidd and Miss Stanley

Rev. and Mrs. Don Stanley of Bristol, Va., announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Kristen Nicole Stanley, to Gregory Scott Kidd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Kidd of Elba.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Robert Saltz and Dorcas Saltz of Abingdon, Va. and Rev. and Mrs. Paul Stanley of Abingdon, Va. She is a 1994 graduate of Temple Christian Academy and is employed by a home interior and floral arrangements business in Virginia.

The future groom is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Kidd and Mrs. Sam Grimes of Elba. He is a 1990 graduate of FCA Academy. He is a graduate of Enterprise State Junior College with an Associate of Art degree. In July of 1998, he received his Administrators Certificate from School of Tomorrow in Louisville, Texas. Scott is employed as an administrator at a Christian Academy in Colquitt, Ga.

The wedding is set for June 5, 1999.

Emily Catherine Fuller is five years old



Emily Catherine Fuller

Emily Catherine Fuller, daughter of Perry and Suzanne Fuller of McComb, Miss., celebrated her fifth birthday on March 8, 1999 with a "Mickey and the Gang" party at NaNa and PaPa Fuller's home in Elba. Emily received many lovely gifts from the host of guests which included a surprise trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. from her parents. Then, she spent the next five days making her birthday wish come true with Mickey Mouse and his friends. Emily is the granddaughter of Catherine Davis of Andalusia, Ronnie Davis of Elba, and Betty and Harvel Fuller of Elba. She is also the great-granddaughter of Clara Bradley of Opp.

HRDC sponsoring Bucks for Books program again

Human Resource Development Corporation (HRDC) will be administering the "Bucks for Books" Program again this year. Last year, Coffee County had 71 participants and expenses were \$3,850.25. A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, at 6 p.m. at the Elba General Hospital Cafeteria. If you have any questions or require additional information, please call Mrs. Stephanie Whitehurst at 347-0881 ext. 34, Ms. Mary Phillips at 897-2667 or Ms. Peggy Stokes at 347-0881, ext. 23.

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Bridal Registry
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Molly Mills & Travis Landingham Shower May 22 Wedding May 22

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Fleetwood and Mary Camley

Fleetwood and Mary Camley celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary

Mary and Fleetwood Camley celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary with their family on March 14 at "the Lodge" located on the grounds of St. Catherine's Village in Madison, Miss. The Camleys reside in St. Catherine's Village Retirement Community. All five of their children, nine of their fourteen grandchildren and other relatives gathered for a Sunday brunch. Present for the occasion were their children and spouses: Nancy and Paul Morrow of Elba, Mary Oliver and Don Brown of

Putnamville, In., Terry D. Camley of Birmingham, Sam and Rosemary Camley of Birmingham, Melaine and Tom Jones of Madison, Miss. Also attending were: Matthew Morrow of Birmingham, Bert Brown of Bloomington, In., David Brown of San Francisco, Calif., Michael Brown of Alexandria, Va., Tati J. Talbot, Emma Jones, Julia Jones and Brian Jones of Madison, Miss., Olive Ray and Shorty Martin of Elba, and Mary Jo Martin of Demopolis, Ala.



Velma Bradshaw

Velma Bradshaw celebrates 87th birthday

Velma Bradshaw celebrated her 87th birthday on April 2, 1999, at the home of Herschel and Patsy Williams. Lots of good food, gifts, flowers and balloons were enjoyed by the honoree. Those attending represented four generations. They were: Joyce Gomes, Chris & Pam Maddaloni, David & Dustin, Patsy & Herschel Williams.

On Mother's Day May 9th

Adkinson-Floyd reunion to be held June 19th

Relatives of Calvin & Huld Adkinson-Floyd are cordially invited to a reunion to be held at the DeFuniak Springs, Fla. Civic Center located off Hwy 83 between the Fire Department and the National Guard Armory. This event will be held on Saturday, June 19, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. This will be our second gathering for the families of: Hettie Floyd Rushing, Jim Floyd, George Floyd, Will Floyd, John Floyd, Polly Ann Floyd Rushing.

Joe Floyd, Louvenia Floyd Linton, Minnie Floyd Rushing, and

Green Floyd. Please bring a covered dish, pictures and folklore. Please contact: Elvise Floyd Currie (850) 892-2523; Margie Rushing Williams (850) 836-4823; Anita Rushing Mitchell (850) 769-2838 or Carolyn Floyd (912) 243-0930.

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Twentieth Century Study Club holds March meeting at library

The Twentieth Century Study Club met Thursday, March 8, at the Elba Public Library. Mrs. Paul Stroud was hostess.

Mrs. Judy Eastburn, program chairman, introduced her husband, Col. (ret.) Charles Gene Eastburn as the speaker of the evening. Mr. Eastburn is a civil engineer and registered land surveyor. He graduated from West Point Military Academy in 1956 and served in the U.S. Army 27 years. He was then affiliated with an engineering firm in Tampa, Fla. for 11 years and came to Elba in 1993.

Mr. Eastburn told the club members a very interesting history of surveying in the United States, beginning with the early colonies and on through the years until the present time. He explained why we sometimes buy forty acres, but in reality, the footage is more or less.



Mr. Love & Miss McGrath

McGrath-Love wedding planned for May 14th

Tara and Tiffany McGrath both of Enterprise, announce the engagement of their aunt, Eva A. McGrath, to Earl L. Love Sr., also of Enterprise.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Una T. McGrath and the late Joseph R. McGrath, Enterprise. She is the granddaughter of the late Jake and Barbara Velich, Pascagoula, Miss., and the late Frank and Elizabeth McGrath, Danbury, Conn.

The future bridegroom is the son of the late Layette Green Love and the late Myrtle M. Love, Bellwood, Ala.

The wedding is planned for Friday, May 14, 1999, at 11 p.m. at the Coffee County Annual Relay for Life event at Enterprise State Junior College.

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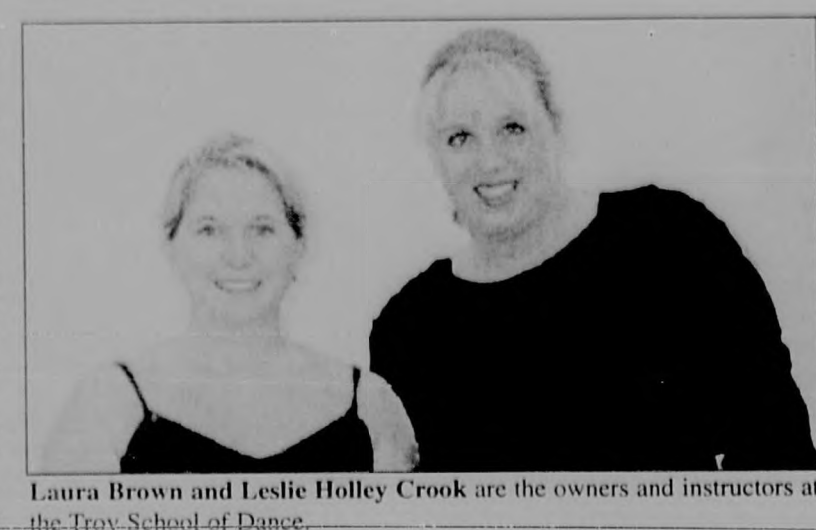
LIFESTYLES

Troy School of Dance receives grant from Alabama State Council on the Arts

"Going to dance class" is an experience far too many children will never know the thrill of unless someone provides a helping hand. That is just what The Troy School of Dance (TSD) did for four young ladies at the beginning of the year. By writing and receiving a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment of the Arts, four young girls lives were forever changed.

TSD received funds from this grant to provide the girls with all in-class needs: tap and ballet shoes, leotard and tights, costumes for recital, dance bag, dance pictures, etc. TSD will provide tuition, fees, transportation, recital tickets and all other expenses not listed in the grant amount.

The instruction takes place after school hours at TSD in Troy. All four students are excited about their dancing and look forward to their dance day." Ms. June Brown, moth-



Laura Brown and Leslie Holley Crook are the owners and instructors at the Troy School of Dance.

er of co-owner Laura Brown serves as the project director, including chauffeur. Zion Chapel High School serves as the fiscal agency for this grant. Plans are already underway to increase the number of students who will have this opportunity for the coming dance year. Any student interested in this program for the 1999-2000 dance year should contact Ms. June at 566-8820. All activities provided by this grant are provided by The Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment of the Arts.

17th annual Jean Lake Arts & Crafts Festival to be held May 1 & 2

Fun and food for the family and treasures for art and craft collectors will be the focus of the 17th Annual Jean Lake Arts & Crafts Festival to be held May 1 & 2 on the grounds of the Pike Pioneer Museum, located on U.S. 231 north of Troy.

Traditional activities for the show are art exhibits and student art displays. Prizes will be awarded in both events. Among the 30 exhibitors attending and providing demonstration events are landscape artists, portrait artists, and artists using media such as glass, pastels, graphics, and photography. Craftsmen will be exhibiting woodcrafts, textiles, pottery, dolls, jewelry, wreaths, and baskets. A blacksmith will also be showing his wares.

The two-day event offers entertainment and fun for the entire family, including children's events with a professional storyteller. A Civil War Reenactment Troop will be camping on the knoll by Poole's Bridge. A Belgian horse team and wagon will also be featured. Among the entertainers will be a featured guitarist, jazz ensembles, gospel singing groups, and competition ballroom dancers.

Food and concession vendors will offer barbecue, country foods, funnel cakes, and hot apple dumplings and soft ice cream - along with the expected outdoor specialties.

Admission includes entry into the Pike Pioneer Museum - historic buildings and collections located on more than 25 acres of wooded land. Trains, log cabins and tenant houses with herb gardens, a one-room schoolhouse, a working grist mill and smoke house, and a demonstration log cabin provide an opportunity for visitors to experience daily life of early Alabama settlers. Among the demonstrations will be quilting, spinning wool and cotton, churning butter, chair caning, and grapevine wreathmaking. Poole's Covered Bridge crosses a running stream and leads to nature trails. Footbridges and forest paths encircle the show's grounds.

The Arts and Crafts Show is a festival in memory of Pike County native and artist Jean Thompson Lake. Her works, which capture the rural South she knew and loved, have won awards throughout the South.

The festival is sponsored by the Troy Council on the Arts and Humanities, the Alabama Council on the Arts and Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pike County Chamber of Commerce and the Pike Pioneer Museum.

Proceeds fund a college scholarship for study in art and for a permanent art collection to be shared with public buildings through Pike County.



OPP HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL DEPARTMENT IS PROUD TO PRESENT THE WIZARD OF OZ this Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. It will be held in the Vernon L. St. John Auditorium at Opp High School. The admission is \$5 per person. Come and see Dorothy, Toto, Scarecrow, Tinman, and the Lion in this classic musical for the whole family. Pictured from left to right are cast members. They are: Brent Jowers, Jeremy Stanley, Jeb Hornsby, Carrie Creel, and Ryan Carr.

Coffee County Pageants scheduled for April 25th at Elba High School

Coffee County Pageants have been set for April 25 at Elba High School. The age divisions are as follows: Future Little Miss, 4-6; Little Miss, 1st graders only; Petite Miss, 7-12; Teen Miss, 13-16; Miss, 17-21. Entry forms are available at all schools in Coffee County and all children clothing stores and formal wear stores in the area. This is a preliminary to the National Peanut Festival pageant. There will be a meeting on March 18 at the Comfort Inn in Enterprise at 4 p.m. for all interested contestants.

Deadline to enter is April 5, 1999.

Coffee County Pageants also invites all former Coffee County queens to the pageant to be recognized.



ON SATURDAY, APRIL 3, THE ANNUAL CATFISH FESTIVAL was held in downtown Arion. Among the many activities was the crowning of three festival queens. Pictured left to right are Jr. Miss Catfish - Sami Jo Phillips, Arion; Little Miss Catfish - Sloan Cotter, Jack; Miss Catfish - Catherine Cauby, Ozark. The annual event is held the first weekend in April every year. For more information on next year's activities or booth rental, you may contact Debra Alums at 762-2019 or 762-2089.

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Miss Kim Tindol honored with bridal shower

Miss Kimberly Dawn Tindol, bride-elect of Michael Josh Manning, was honored with a miscellaneous shower Sunday afternoon, April 11, at Aunt B's Bed and Breakfast.

The double front doors each held a white satin heart-shaped arrangement with hanging wedding bells. The house was decorated throughout with spring bouquets of fresh flowers and other floral arrangements.

Mrs. Jenny Allen greeted the guests and presented them to Miss Tindol, the honoree; her mother, Mrs. Jumell Tindol; the groom's mother, Mrs. Nell Manning and the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Laura Barker.

Guests enjoyed party dainties and punch from the beautifully appointed dining room table. Guests were then directed into rooms where gifts were displayed. Hostesses for the occasion were: Henrietta Grimes, Sam Bradley, Verneette Maddox, Peggy Storey, Ramona Ross, Janie Allen, Ellen Lowery, Marsha Oggs, Pam Baker, Clara Ann Dyess, Shirley Henderson, Doris Matthews, Barbara Davis, Mary Wallace, Peggy Stroud, Sharon Cowen, Carolyn Kelley, Starla Amison, Kaye Whitworth, Myrt Smith, Jane Cash, Shirley White, Glenda Daniels, Shirley Goodson, Gloria Moseley, Nellie Johnson, Julia Brooks, Pearl Moseley, Patsy English, Stephanie McIntosh, Nickie Jinnight, Jean Moore, Nina Allen, Anita Grimes, Barbara Hudson, Nicole Sessions, Judy Qualls, and Jenny Allen.



Pictured seated L to R: Mrs. Laura Barker-grandmother of honoree, Miss Kimberly Tindol-honoree; standing L to R: Mrs. Henrietta Grimes-honoree, Mrs. Nell Manning-mother of future groom-to-be, Mrs. Jumell Tindol-mother of honoree and Mrs. Jenny Allen-honoree.

Spring Art Festival to be held in Andalusia

The Visual Arts League of Andalusia (VALA) will present the 2nd Annual Spring Art Festival on the town square in Andalusia on Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. There will be plenty of art,

entertainment, food, fun and a classic car show. Also, there will be a children's tent, and each child will be able to take home an original creation of art. Face painting and authentic Indian hand painting will

be offered at the children's tent. Entries are welcome for the art show. For more information call 222-2973, 222-2416 or 496-3406.

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SPORTS

Views from

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz

The Mularz zow hasn't grown in recent weeks, thank goodness, and that is certainly good news for both Mom and Dad, who seem to have inherited the feeding duties. Dad feeds the dog and cat before leaving for work in the morning, while Mom handles feeding the bird and rabbit. I don't really know who feeds the fish, but you can bet it isn't one of the kids. Maybe if we wouldn't feed the kids for a day or two, they would get the hint and start feeding the animals!

ONCE OVER, NOT ALWAYS SO LIGHTLY....

*** The Elba Tigers will host an opening round playoff game this week in the Class 3A baseball playoffs, and coming to town will be the Washington County Bulldogs. The Tigers eliminated the Bulldogs in the opening round of the football playoffs back in November, and will be trying to do the same Saturday in baseball. Elba has been on somewhat of a roll in recent weeks and pushed its record to 10-8 last week with an area win over Slocomb, and closed out Area 3 action with four lopsided wins over Slocomb and Luverne. If sophomore Brandon Salter can continue to pitch well, the Tiger defense make the plays, and the Tiger batters make contact, Elba could very well move along in the playoffs and be a team that could scare some folks on down the line!

*** The Elba Lady Tigers had a busy week in softball action and posted three wins and four losses with their record slipped to 14-12 for the season. The Lady Tigers opened the week with a doubleheader loss to Opp, then whipped Goshen twice before defeating Geneva County, and falling twice to Houston Academy. When the Lady Tigers hit the ball they win ball games, when they don't hit the ball they don't stop it very well, either, and usually lose. The Elba girls have eight regular season games left on the schedule, and need to use the games to get ready for the upcoming section tournament and try to settle in on a set batting order and starting line-up. After 26 games the time for change should be over, and it should be time to fine tune for the post-season tournament.

*** It looks like the Elba Tigers might have new head coaches in all sports next year, at least if we are to believe the rumors that have been floating around in recent weeks. Julius Head has already been named the Tigers new head coach in football, while Marlon Johnson is reported to be mulling over several job offers in basketball, and baseball coach David Lowery is set to become the new head football coach at Brantley High School. With head junior high football coach Kevin Killingsworth already headed back to Enterprise, and former head football coach David Sikis reported to be leaving his teaching position, it looks like there will be a lot of new faces on the sidelines, on the diamond and possibly in the gym when the 1999-2000 school year opens in August.

*** The Alabama State Board of Education voted recently to amend its "No Pass - No Play" rule in an attempt to make it possible for student athletes to return to sports competition after only one semester, instead of forcing the student-athletes to sit out a full year. The board had previously stated that if a student didn't pass minimum standards during a school year, that student would have to sit out the entire following school year. Under the new ruling, if a student failed to meet the academic requirements during one semester, he/she could make up the work the following semester and regain eligibility after sitting out only one semester. For an example, if a football player failed to make the grades during the first semester, he would be ineligible to play sports during the following semester. However, if that student made up the work required and passed during the second semester, he would be able to compete again at the beginning of the next school year. Some bugs still have to be worked out in the new plan, but it does seem to give the student-athletes more incentive to hit the books after a bad grading period, and not simply give up knowing he must sit out the entire next year no matter what happens the rest of that school year. It is a step in the right direction.

*** The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation has now started its youth baseball and softball programs for the spring and summer, and looking at the schedule it reveals that a total of 39 games a week are being played at the fields at Legion Field and Hawkins Williams Park. The schedule won't expand from its one game a week format in Dixie Youth, Dixie Minor and Girls Softball until early May, but when it does it will mean that teams in the leagues will play over 50 games a week. That's a lot of ball to be played, and a lot of work for the folks in recreation to keep the parks in shape and the fields ready for action. There can't be another town the size of Elba anywhere in the nation that has more participation from its citizens in recreation!

*** The work is continuing on the Mulberry Park, and within a matter of days the new concession building - bathrooms will be completed, and the lights focused to give the field its maximum lighting capacity. The ball field already has new fencing, new dugouts and a new scoreboard, and the concession building and bathrooms will make the park something to be proud of. More plans are on the drawing board for the park, and improvements will continue as funding permits.

*** In closing, it was great to hear last week that Kinston High School athletic director/girls coach Amelia Rhoades received a good report following tests on her heart. Rumors floating around sounded really bad, but Coach Rhoades was given good news from her doctors and it looks like one of the state's biggest activists in girls athletics will be around and vocal in her support for the girls programs for many years to come. Great news!!!!

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Tigers smash Red Tops 11-1 to record perfect 4-0 Area 3 record

The Elba Tigers closed out their area slate with a perfect 4-0 record and moved to 10-8 overall last week with a resounding 11-1 win over the Slocomb Red Tops, in Elba.

The Tigers jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the top of the first on a lead off double by Kevin Dodd and an RBI single by Josh Hodge, then plated five runs in the third to extend their lead to 6-0!

Dustin Stinson ignited the third inning fireworks as he singled and stole second, then raced home on an RBI single by Brandon Salter. An inside-the-park homer by Josh Hodge pushed Elba's lead to 1-0, while Eric Jordan closed out the game with a double in the bottom of the fifth as he reached on a hit, stole second, moved to third on a passed ball and scored on a fielder's choice to give Elba the 11-1 win.

Brandon Salter moved his record to 6-2 with the win, as the Elba sophomore pitched all five innings and allowed 3 hits and 2 walks while striking out 5 batters. The Tigers were led at the plate by Josh Hodge with 2 hits and 3 RBIs, Pete Manning with 2 hits and 2 RBIs, Kevin Dodd with two doubles, and Dustin Stinson with 2 hits.

Elba earned a spot in the playoffs by claiming the Area 3 championship with a perfect 4-0 record, while Washington County will enter the Washington County Bulldogs, at Tiger Field.

The Elba Tigers will begin play in the Class 3A High School Baseball Playoffs on Saturday, April 24, at 3:00 PM, when they host the Washington County Bulldogs, at Tiger Field.

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Elba's Brandon Salter (13) crosses the plate for another Tiger run during a recent Elba win. The Tigers defeated Slocomb 11-1 last week to put the wraps on a perfect 4-0 Area record. Elba will host Washington County Saturday at 3:00 in the opening round of the Class 3A baseball playoffs.

Elba Tigers to host Washington County Saturday at 3:00 in round one of 3A prep baseball playoffs

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SPORTS

Calls Elba position "One I've always wanted"

New Elba Tiger coach Julius Head convinced Tigers can regain winning tradition with hard work and dedication

With the pledge to "put pride and tradition back in Elba Tiger football," new Elba head football coach Julius Head went about the task of learning his new school and its students last week during a meeting with students in grades seven through eleven.

"I had a meeting with the students in grades 7-11 last week and encouraged them to build Elba High School athletics back up to the top in its class, and assured them that I was here to work with them and would work with them to put the pride and tradition back in the program," said Coach Head. "We've got great kids

and great facilities here in Elba, and we are going to get all the coaches and students working together to put Elba High football, and all Elba High athletics back on top. We aren't going to make excuses, we are going to work hard and get the job done."

Julius Head, a native of Greenville, graduated from Howard College (Samford), where he played football under Coach Bobby Bowden. He began his coaching career as an assistant at West End High School in Birmingham, then moved to Baldwin County and Elba, where he also served as an

assistant. After a three-year stint as the head football coach at Lincoln High School, Head returned to his alma mater as an assistant coach at Greenville High School. While remaining in Greenville, Head left the public school ranks and for four years served as the head football coach at Ft. Dale Academy. Head returned to the Ft. Dale position for another two years after a short stint as an assistant coach at Woodham High School, in Pensacola, then left the private school ranks in 1980 to accept the head coaching job at Daleville High School. Head remained at Daleville for six years, followed by one year stays at Florida High School and Coffee Springs High School. Head's most successful years as a head coach came next, where in seven years as the head coach at Arlton High School he led the Purple Cats to seven straight playoff appearances and a total of 70 wins. The past four

years Head has been the head coach at Goshen High School, where he led the Eagles to two playoff appearances.

"I have coached at a lot of different places," agreed Head, "but I always left for a better offer and a raise in pay. Coaching at so many different places allowed me to meet a lot of people and helped develop my coaching philosophy. I learned something at every stop along the way, and always thought that Elba was a very special place. Coach Wood and I had been friends for many years, and I followed his success at Elba and the success of the athletic program at Elba High School. I was at the final game at the old stadium, and it was just something about Elba Tiger football and the people of Elba that made it easy to see that Elba was a special place. I told the school officials in Goshen that the only place I would leave Goshen for would be Elba, and

and Teleisha Daniels. A double by Bludworth and singles by Raeanm McCollough, Oneida Davis and Melissa Grantham sparked another five-run outburst in the second inning as the Lady Tigers increased their lead to 10-0, while the Elba lead went to 11-0 in the third behind the hitting of Melissa Mularz, Teleisha Daniels and Katie Vaughan. Rachel Bludworth knocked in two runs in the top of the fourth with her second triple of the game as the Lady Tigers upped their lead to 13-

The Houston Academy Lady Raiders scored the final seven runs of the game to outscore the Elba Lady Tigers 13-9, in the opening round of the tournament.

Elba jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead on a long two-run homer by Roshanda McKinnon in the top of the first, and then erupted for seven runs in the fourth inning to regain the lead at 9-0. The fourth inning fireworks were ignited by the hitting of Teleisha Daniels, Melissa Mularz, Katie Vaughan and Melissa Grantham. The Lady Tigers' bats were silent after the fourth inning outburst, however, and the Lady Raiders rallied late to post the 13-9 win.

Missella Grantham, Teleisha Daniels and Melissa Mularz all got 2 hits for the Lady Tigers.

Elba Lady Tigers improved their record to 13-10 on Thursday afternoon with a doubleheader sweep over the Goshen Lady Eagles, in Goshen.

The Lady Tigers outscored the Lady Eagles 13-5 in the opener, and then posted an easy 15-0 win in the nightcap to sweep the twin bill on the road.

Following are highlights of last week's action:

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Vaughan Boyd got 2 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Katie Vaughan, Melissa Grantham, Roshanda McKinnon, Raeanm McCollough, Teleisha Daniels and Rachel Bludworth all added 2 hits.

Consecutive singles by Katie Vaughan, Vaughan Boyd and Melissa Grantham to open the game lifted the Lady Tigers to a quick 3-0 lead, while Elba continued the batting barrage in the second inning and plated eight more runs to extend their lead to 11-0! The second inning barrage was highlighted by the hitting of Raeanm McCollough and Oneida Davis, with two hits apiece, while Rachel Bludworth added a two-run double. The Lady Tigers added four runs in the third inning and then shut out the Lady Eagles to post the easy 15-0 win.

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FACTORY CLEARANCE. Arch Steel Buildings. 20X24, 30X40, 42X60, 50X110. Must sell to make room for incoming inventory. Below Cost! Huge Savings! Call Immediately 1-800-431-7007. 4-15-4c

ALLIET FREE PHONES. Rickey Jewelers 897-3775 5-14-4c

PIANO FOR SALE. Console. Excellent condition. Financing available. Home/commercial units. Free color catalog. Call today. 1-800-842-1310. 4-14-4c

AMAZINGLY LOW prices. Wolff tanning beds. Buy factory direct. Excellent service, financing available. Home/commercial units. Free color catalog. Call today. 1-800-842-1310. 4-14-4c

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TAN AT home. Buy direct from Alabama manufacturer. We now sell direct to consumers. No middleman means huge savings. Financing available. Free color catalog. 1-800-970-5547. 4-22-1p

LOSE WEIGHT? Body Slim. \$45 bottle. Call 897-5756. 4-22-1p

WOLF TANNING beds. Monrovia Bay. Home and commercial units. Factory direct. Financing available. 90 days same as cash. Units start as low as \$109. Call 1-800-242-8250. (R) 4-22-1p

TYPE STEEL BUILDINGS. Finance Company Repossessed 3 Buildings. 2 never assembled, unbelievable Discounts. Ready now for immediate delivery. 20X26, 25X32, 30X40. Call today 1-800-222-6335. 4-15-2c

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HELP WANTED: Apply in person at the ELBA DAIRY QUEEN-CANAL Ave.-Elba. 4-15-2c

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EXPERIENCED AUTO & SMALL MOTOR MECHANIC NEEDED. Salary depending on experience. Apply in person at GUY'S USED LAWNMOWERS & AUTOS, INC., 125 Adkinson Street - Elba. 4-15-2c

AIR FORCE. Great career opportunities available for high school graduates 18-28. Plus up to \$10,000 incentive bonus if you qualify. For an information packet call 1-800-423-USA or visit www.airforce.com. 4-15-1c

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DRIVER - Inexperienced? Learn to be an OTR professional from a top carrier. Great pay, executive-style benefits and conventional equipment. Call today. U.S. Xpress. 1-800-879-7743. 4-22-1p

DRIVERS - 100% owner operators pay twice weekly. Short & long haul. Call Malone 1-800-633-6361. 4-22-1p

DRIVERS - Attention: professional owner operator. No Canada, NYC and NE, min. 23 year with own OTR CDL with Hazmat. Paschall Truck Lines. 1-800-848-0405. (R) 4-22-1p

DRIVERS - ATTENTION: Company drivers, independent contractors, & fleet owners. Maxwell & Maxwell, Inc. is looking for qualified flatbed drivers. Great pay & benefits. Call now for more information. Jenny at 1-800-262-9766. 4-22-1p

DRIVERS! Fantastic new pay rates. 1-3 years experience: start at 32.5¢ / mile, top at 36.5¢ in 12 months. Over 3 years: start at top pay of 36.5¢. Home weekly. Great family benefits. 1-888-WORK-4-USA. Averi Express. EOE (r) 4-22-1p

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HELP WANTED

DRIVERS: GREAT opportunities for owner operators / temporary company drivers. Tractor trailer 48-state hauling requires 3+ months' experience. North American Van Lines. 1-800-348-2147. Dept. ALS. 4-15-1c

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DRIVERS / Owner Operators: Sign on with a company that cares about their drivers. Great new pay package. \$1,000 sign-on bonus. Training opportunities. Southern Refrigerated Transport. 1-888-778-8185. www.southernrft.com. 4-15-1c

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YARD SALES. Home Grown Plants, Edger, Chipper & Shredder & Mugh. Free Friday & Saturday, April 23 & 24. 1355 AL Highway 203(Bypass). 4-22-1p

CARPENTRY SALE - SAT, APRIL 24th, 8:00 - 1:00. Furniture, Collectibles, Sall & Pepper Collectors, Belts, New Carpet, and Miscellaneous. From Elba: Take 189 South, Approx. 6 Miles, Go to Co. Rd. 115, Turn Right, First House on Right. 4-22-1p

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Zion Chapel Elementary School Honor Roll Third Grading Period

"A" Honor Roll:

1st grade
Alex Archie, Bernita Clark, Xavier Clark, Jennifer Cook, Nathaniel Cox, Dillon Davis, Hillary Davis, Hayden Gibson, Tanner Grant, Nicole Holloway, Erika Mount, Nicole Napper, Landon Peters, Joshua Richards, Dillon Roberts, Zachary Senn, Garrett Stinson

2nd grade
Lindsey Amlong, Kirsten Collins, Caitlin Grissett, Kelly Hatcher, Emily Kelley, B.J. McCloud, Ethan Mount, Steven Petty, Amber Powell, Sierra Senn, Clara Smith, Kyle Tankersley, Justin Winters

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"A-B" Honor Roll:

1st grade
Nathaniel Bagwell, Savannah Ballew, Enrico Belvin, Weston Brown, Sierra Bush, Hannah Donn, Zachary Evans, Logan Hall, Henry Haynes, Marlaa Howd, Tara Howe (Davis), Lila Johnson, Kevin Little, Alexis Messina, Johnna Myers, Shane Nelson, Zachary Sawyer, Victoria Stockman, Lance Walden, Joey White

4th grade
Todd Grant, Joshua Kelley, Erica Lewis, Tiffany Liptrot, Ethan Price, Jennifer Taylor, Matthew Williams

5th grade
Courtney Dykes, Christopher Fuller, Lindsay Leverett, Heather Sanders, D.J. Stinson

2nd grade
Ethan Arnold, Shane Barnhill, Cory Carter, Jonathan Ellis, Joshua Gilbert, Wayne Hood, Drew Little, Traci Long, Courtney Nelson, Kristen Patterson, Zachary Stephens, Leana Vinson

3rd grade
Brittany Bass, Stephanie Berry, Logan Carley, Kayla Crook, Larry

4th grade
Johnston, Erick Odom, Anthony Pezza, Brandon Pierce, Eric Wise, Corey Wood

5th grade
Blaine Drury, Brittany Hunko, Casey Mack, Amber McCall, Joey McCrummen, Matthew Shell

6th grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

7th grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

8th grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

9th grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

10th grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

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41st grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

42nd grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

43rd grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

44th grade
Kontora Edwards, Breanna Hattaway

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INSIDE
Charlie & John Toms at Zion Chapel High



INSIDE
SouthTrust Bank says "Thank You"



INSIDE
Dustin Stinson slams homer in Elba playoff win



The Elba Clipper

Volume 102, Number 46

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, April 29, 1999

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Coffee County Commission & EEDC unite in countywide venture

by Marvin McLain, Editor

The Coffee County Commission's first night meeting of the year had a short agenda but was rather lengthy with lots of discussion taking place. Representatives from the Enterprise Economic Development Corporation (EEDC) addressed the commission and presented a proposal for increasing the county's strength in developing economically.

Brett Morgan, co-chairman of the EEDC, told commissioners that the board of directors of EEDC had decided to explore the possibility of expanding their organization to make it more county-wide.

He gave commissioners a brief overview of the corporation's accomplishments in the past year and what its goals have been, and, since the EEDC was formed almost five years ago.

Morgan noted the corporation's spec program, which helps new businesses get a start by providing them with facilities and acquiring funding. He commented that accomplishments by the corporation have not only been beneficial to the city of Enterprise, but for Coffee County as well.

"Most of you here know there are no imaginary lines or boundaries as we drive anywhere," said Morgan. "Whether we go from Enterprise to Elba or Elba to Troy or Montgomery

we have citizenry and populace now that moves back and forth.

"We [EEDC] think it's advantageous for us to explore our economic benefit to each other and the benefit we might derive by going forward and forming a new partnership."

He told commissioners that the basic beliefs of the EEDC have been that economics and jobs benefit all citizens and it's always forward and progressive if we try to expand our job base.

Morgan presented commissioners with a packet of information which qualified the reasoning behind the goals set forth by the EEDC.

He told commissioners that the EEDC was in the process of updating their strategic plan for the future and he noted that the county had just completed theirs.

"We think it is the perfect time for us to review where we are and invite the county to join with us in reconstituting our board and having an agency that will move forward for all the county and not just collectively for one or two cities," said Morgan.

Jim Allford gave commissioners a brief explanation as to what the EEDC does. One, it supports the expansion and retention of existing businesses and industries by assisting them in obtaining funding and facilities; two, the organization recruits new businesses and industries.

Elba's sewer overhaul one step closer

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council met Monday evening and moved one step closer to the major sewer system overhaul which has been in the talking and planning stages for the past five or six years.

The council approved a low construction bid of \$1,617,679 from Speegle Construction Inc. of Cocoa, Florida for the sewer upgrade. Bids from the other ten bidders ranged upward to \$2,676,656.75. Once the bid, and the bidder, have been approved by USDA Rural Development, construction should begin by June 1st and the project is expected to be completed in about one year. Consulting engineers for the project are Piers Municipal Associates, Inc. (PMA) of Dothan.

Bobby Lee, representing PMA, said his firm has worked with Speegle and are presently overseeing a project they are doing in Florida. He recommended the firm as being well qualified to do the Elba work.

One officer will be assigned to each of the two Elba schools, one will be community based and they will all report to a unit supervisor, working directly under the police chief. The unit will concentrate on parks and other recreation areas during the summer months.

Councilman Winzell Gray reported on a recently completed convention

sand caused the ever widening ditches to become massive holes of water and more sand. There was one death during the 1968 project due to this problem.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth told council members that the 911 lines have been out of service for several days due to problems with the phone lines. He assured council members that the phone company had corrected this problem and the emergency system is back in service.

The chief also told council members about a grant application he is preparing. It will be a juvenile crime prevention unit and, if approved, will be receive 75% federal funding. The unit will be a coordinated effort between the Elba Police Department and the Elba City School system and consist of four officers. Whitworth said this project, which he has been working on for some time, will fit perfectly with the national concerns following the recent incident in Colorado.

City officials are keenly aware that the prime contractor in the 1968 Elba sewer expansion project filed bankruptcy before completing the job and the bonding company had to find another firm to complete the installation. A major problem in that renovation was the continuous caving in of the trench sides as the wet

sand caused the ever widening ditches to become massive holes of water and more sand. There was one death during the 1968 project due to this problem.

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Dorsey Trailer show positive financial results in 1st quarter

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Dorsey Trailers first quarter financial results were positive, according to a company news release of April 23rd. The financial turn around from the last couple of years continues to look good for the Elba trailer manufacturer.

The reports show the company made a profit of \$500,000, or 10¢ per share, in the first quarter, compared to a loss of \$600,000 or 13¢ a share for the same period last year. Quarterly sales also increased for the same period from \$35.4 million to \$44.8 million.

"First quarter 1999 results demonstrate the sustained turnaround in the business from the very difficult period of 1996 and 1997. Through 1998, Dorsey's management team made tremendous progress in all operating areas, including cost reductions, product mix improvement, increased distribution, and plant productivity. The progress continued at an even faster pace in 1999, due to the hard work of 1998 which positioned us well for rapid improvement," remarked Marilyn Marks, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

First quarter represents the fourth consecutive quarter where Dorsey has reported operating profits. Operating income for the last four quarters was \$2.7 million. Operating income of over \$1 million in the first quarter exceeds the operating income in 1998. "The consistently improving operating performance is indicative of the sustained turnaround in the business from the very difficult period of 1996 and 1997. Through 1998, Dorsey's management team made tremendous progress in all operating areas, including cost reductions, product mix improvement, increased distribution, and plant productivity. The progress continued at an even faster pace in 1999, due to the hard work of 1998 which positioned us well for rapid improvement," remarked Marilyn Marks, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

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by Linda Hodge, Staff Writer

It has been a week since the devastating tragedy at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado took place, but the concern of school violence still rings loud in the minds of local students and administrators.

Elba and Coffee County students, teachers and administrators joined everyone across the nation in listening to reports of what had taken place at Columbine High School last week, and the question of "What if this had been us?" seemed to emerge.

"It's really scary to think we have kids who are so troubled that they believe the only way out is through violence," said Melinda Hodge, a

teacher and mother of two students at Zion Chapel. "It's just very sad that we've gotten to that point."

She said in the days following the shooting, she heard many of the students of Zion Chapel say how much this act of violence scared them. And, it was in talking with her own children and students that Hodge said she wondered where this kind of violence would end.

"I felt sorry for the kids of the school and the families of those who were killed," said Eric Jordan, a senior at Elba High School. "And, I hope this sort of thing never happens here."

Charles Pearce, superintendent of the Elba City Schools, said the morning after the shooting in Colorado the faculty and administration met to review the systems plan to let everyone know to be more aware and cautious.

"An event like this is one of the greatest fears an administrator has," said Pearce. "You hope and pray that it never happens, but there is always the possibility that it could happen. We must try to be familiar with the plan in case tragedy does strike."

Elba High School Principal Danny Weeks said being fully prepared for gunshots being fired in a school is almost impossible, but he feels the safety plan adopted by the Elba City Schools along with strict guidelines will continue to make Elba schools safe.

"It is a sad day when violence enters a school building," Weeks said. "But, we have a plan in place here at Elba, and I truly believe that our students are safe."

He said besides the safety policy that was adopted by the board of education a few years back, Elba High School is one of the few schools which still imposes a strict

Area Happenings

SAUSAGE FESTIVAL & COUNTY FAIR. The Elba Chamber of Commerce invites everyone to attend the first annual Old Time County Fair and Sausage Festival on Saturday, May 8, 1999. The event is being held at the Heart of Dixie Music Park located on AL Hwy. 166 west of Elba near Danley's Crossroads. Lots of activities (tag-o-war, sack race, greased pole climbing, etc.) are planned for both young and old, plus arts and crafts. There will be cooking contests for the ladies and men. For music lovers there will be plenty of music, clogging and old time square dancing. Another added attraction will be a classic car show for car lovers, and a husband calling contest. For more information call the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125. TICKETS (Adults - \$3, Youth - \$1 & Children under 3 Free) WILL BE SOLD AT THE GATE ONLY. Gates open at 9:00 a.m.

NATIVE AMERICAN FESTIVAL. The Southeast Pioneer Village, Hwy. 231, eight miles north of Troy, AL, is having its annual Native American Festival, Saturday, May 8, 1999, 9 a.m. until. Festival includes arts & crafts, food, entertainment, campfire Saturday night and primitive camping. Intertribal dancers welcome. All vendors welcome free of charge. Call (334) 866-3826 Saturday or Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to reserve your booth space. Will take reservations until all booth spaces are filled. Free admission, good food, family fun and activities.

D.A.R.E. GRADUATION The Elba Elementary School and Elba Police Department will hold sixth grade D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Graduation Exercises on Monday, May 3, 1999, in the elementary school cafeteria at 9:00 a.m. Guest speaker for the occasion will be State Representative Terry Spicer. The Elba Police Department's D.A.R.E. Officer, Dean Blair, urges all parents to attend this event.

ZION CHAPEL KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION Zion Chapel Elementary School will hold Kindergarten registration on Thursday (TODAY), April 29, from 8 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. Parents will need to bring the child's birth certificate, Social Security card, immunization records and proof of residence.

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nominally. "We have some \$88,734.00 to carry forward into this next fiscal year," commented Morgan. "We manage our funds very prudently and very wisely."

After several minutes of discussion, the commission voted unanimously to accept the proposal with an amendment that the commission appoint two members to serve on the "new" economic development organization's board.

One of the commission's concerns expressed during the discussion of

the motion was that all parts of the county be brought into consideration, including Elba, New Brockton, and the Kinston areas.

Both Morgan and Allford assured the commissioners that one of the goals of the organization would be to work toward the betterment of all Coffee County.

Commissioner Tom Grimley commented in making the motion to accept the EEDC's proposal that he

Please See CCC, Page 14

Colorado tragedy rings loud in minds of local students

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He said besides the safety policy that was adopted by the board of education a few years back, Elba High School is one of the few schools which still imposes a strict

dress code and the school follows a strict - No Fight Policy. Weeks said any student involved in a fight is automatically suspended for five days, and there have been very few incidents on the campus this year.

Roger Bowden, Coffee County Board of Education Superintendent, added that the county schools already have very strong guidelines when it comes to violence, but he said incidences like the one in Colorado last week have instigated the addition of even stronger plans to better ensure the safety of the students and faculty. He said an emergency plan was brought before the board at its last meeting. If approved the plan will focus on things such as bomb threats and people on campus who should not be there. He said the faculty and principals of the schools will be trained in where they need to be and what they need to do in the event of a crisis situation. This will work with the already existing suspension and expulsion policy in which Bowden said any student caught with a gun at school is immediately expelled from school for one year.

He said these type policies are a direct result of events like the one at Columbine High School. "At times, I feel like things are pretty well taken care of here," said Kelvin Burks, a junior at Elba. "It's things like what happened in Colorado really scare you because you don't know what's going through a person's mind all the time. Students are a lot more violent today. A person could be your friend one day and shoot you the next day."

He said incidents like the one at Columbine really hit home because it affects everyone in that parents send their children to school, but don't expect to hear that they have been killed there.

"As a student, hearing about these things makes you scared because they are happening in little towns, and you just can't tell about people anymore," said Heather Hays, an eighth grade student at Elba. "In general, I feel safe at school, but

they (students at Columbine) probably felt the same way."

Weeks said the administrators, teachers and counselors at EHS have had discussions with the students about the events that took place last week, and they always want the students to know that their doors are open.

"We are not only here to help students with the academics," he said. "I tell the students that my door is always open from a quarter to seven each morning until on into the afternoon."

He also said that the teachers realize that they play a double role for the students in that they many times become a counselor as well as a teacher. He said there are many instances when a student finds it easier to talk to a teacher about a problem rather than his or her parents. With this in mind, Weeks said the faculty at EHS strives always to be prepared to help a student in need.

Hodge said it is a tragedy like the one in Colorado last week which suggests that parents, teachers and administrators must work to give kids something to believe in because she feels it was obvious that the two students at Columbine High School did not believe in anything.

"We must help our students to believe in themselves," said Hodge. "